[Sri C. Subramaniam] [5th May 1954

Opposition, the only point he wants to know is whether we are going to make a statement of policy if there is any new policy which this Ministry has decided to follow. I would like to remind him that whatever might be the personnel of the Ministry, it is the Congress Party that continues to be in power and our party and policy will be guided by the Congress principles and ideals. We are wedded to those principles and ideals and we are bound to follow them. Therefore, the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition need not be under the impression that some Ministry was defeated and that, as a result of that, a new Ministry has been formed. It is only an internal arrangement within the Party and, therefore, the question of a statement of policy does not arise.

"In that connection, the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition referred to the statement I made with regard to the conduct of the business of the Assembly when we sat last. That was a personal disability which I pleaded before the House and I wanted an adjournment of the House, and the Speaker was pleased to adjourn the House. That has absolutely no relevancy with reference to the Ministry which has been constituted. I may assure the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and also this House—even though we have come with added strength—it is the Congress Government that continues to be in power and we will follow the Congress policy and ideals."

Mr. SPEAKER :—"Let us now take up the next item on the agenda."

V.—SUPPLY OF COPIES OF ORIGINAL ACTS WHEN AMENDING BILLS ARE BROUGHT FORWARD.

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—"On a point of order, Sir. The short point which I wish to raise is this. When a Bill for amending only certain sections of an existing Act is brought forward and when those amendments are not formal ones, are not the Members of the House entitled to have copies of the original Act or at least, as was the practice previously, the relevant sections sufficiently early? Of course, to-day copies of the amendments have been given to us. But an amendment to a section concerns various other sections also. Unless, when the notice of the Bill is given, these materials are also supplied to us, we are not in a position to look into the matter carefully."

Mr. SPEAKER :—"I think the amendments were circulated to the hon. Members long ago."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—"Not the original sections and the relevant amendments."

Mr. SPEAKER :—"I think the hon. Member wants copies of the original Act."

5th May 1954]

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Copies of the original Act or at least the information supplied to us to-day ought to have been supplied to us sufficiently early."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, this thing was printed long ago and I thought that it would have been circulated. If there has been any mistake in respect of circulation, I shall look into the matter and see that it does not recur."

* SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, in the absence of the original sections to which amendments are sought to be moved to-day, how are we to be in a position to discuss the entire question? If a copy of these sections is placed on the table of the House just at 11 o'clock, just before the question-hour—and the entire question-hour engages us because we are the people who put supplementary questions—we have no time to read through the papers supplied to us."

MR. SPEAKER :—" These things were circulated long ago. I think the hon. Member wants a copy of the original Act."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Not only that. Even copies of the amendments sought to be moved were supplied to us only to-day."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, as you were pleased to point out, this Bill was circulated long ago. In case any further information was required by any particular hon. Member, if he had asked for it, it would have been supplied to him immediately. It is only for the convenience of hon. Members that we print the original sections also side by side with the relevant amendments. It will facilitate easy reference. We are not bound to do it, but for the convenience of the hon. Members, we do it. Therefore, one cannot claim, as a matter of right, that at every stage such copies should be given, but we are giving them generally. I give the assurance that if there has been any mistake in respect of circulation, I shall see that it does not recur. I hope the hon. Member will take that assurance . . ."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The mistake is not that of my office. Our office might not have been given enough time to circulate it early."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I shall see that in future such copies are made available to hon. Members sufficiently early. But the present amendments being only amendments referring to procedural matters, I would request the hon. Members to put up with the inconvenience and proceed with the business of the House."